

**RACES!!**  
**M. Gains**  
WILL HOLD HER SHOW  
OF  
**RACE HATS**  
MONDAY, Feb. 8th, 1909.  
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# The China Mail.

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HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1909.

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**A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.**

Hongkong, May 1, 1907

THE MANILA CARNIVAL.

Athletic Competitors from  
Hongkong.

(By our Special Representative.)  
MANILA, February 2.

To-day, Manila has thrown its arms open to the world, and has offered almost all that human ingenuity could conceive in the direction of pleasure and amusement. The Carnival, which has been the chief theme of thought and conversation here for many months past has opened, and here we are in a whirl of excitement, gaiety, and happiness. We were a goodly crowd from Hongkong who availed ourselves of the passage arranged by the S.S. Zafiro, including, besides a small party of Pressmen, a predominating element of military men, who intend doing their level best to secure for Hongkong a place not to be despised amongst the many competitors from different parts of the world in the athletic section, or, to use the official term, the "Oriental Olympiad." Most, if not all, of these have established themselves in sporting circles in the Colony, as the following details will readily indicate. Polo being represented by such experienced hands as Major Findlay, Commander Campbell, R.N., Lieut. Crookenden, Lieut. Green, and Capt. Brerley. The tennis racket is being wielded by Capt. Bessley, Lieut. Whyte, Capt. Brerley, and Lieut. Byrnie, the two former of whom will be remembered as the clever pair who won the open doubles championship in Hongkong two seasons ago; and, as to cricket the following side should do much to create a good impression as to the standard of play in the Colony:—Capt. Baird, Capt. Bessley, Lieut. Colonel Chalmers, Capt. Brerley, Capt. Greenway, Lieut. Bagnall, Lieut. Anderson, Lieut. Liepmann, Capt. Dwyer, Lieut. Haughton, and Lieut. Betton-Foster as umpire. As an individual competitor Lance Corporal Andrews of the Buffs, was also aboard, his forte being running; holding, as he does, the South Africa Army championship for the quarter-mile. The Zafiro's complement also included the band of the 13th Rajputs, who, under Bandmaster Coko, are expected to win further laurels as the result of their participation in the Carnival programme.

We arrived in Manila Harbour early this morning and were not kept waiting very long for a decidedly hearty, and official welcome. The first signal we had of it was the approach of a gaily adorned launch, from which sounds of band music floated across the water to us. Soon we learned that the little boat bore the Reception Committee, who, headed by Major Bingham and Col. Dorrington, quickly boarded the Zafiro and extended the heartiest reception to the folk from Hongkong. Formalities over the band aboard the launch struck up the National Anthem, which was shortly afterwards responded to by the Rajputs giving an inspiring rendering of "The Star Spangled Banner."

As to the Carnival itself, it only needs quite a cursory glance at the character and size of the erections within the Pleasure City to be at once realised that the undertaking has been a stupendous one. So much so, that the mere chronicle of bald facts might read like exaggeration. But of details more anon. Suffice it to say that the grounds are situated on a commanding site at Wallace Field, that they occupy many acres in extent, and that everything possible has been done to provide attractive amusement, as well as to impart instruction. The place is a veritable maze of coloured attractions.

Of course, the idea of the Carnival is to "boom" the Philippines. And there is no doubt but that the task of "booming" is in capable hands. On every side are evidences of the enterprise of the Americans. Even within the walled city of Manila, though its many Spanish characteristics remain, things are taking on a lively aspect, and there is every sign of momentary vitality and healthiness. A few years more and Manila will have to be spelt with a very big "M."

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Hongkong, December 12, 1908.

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Hongkong, February 3, 1909.

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IS A HIGH-CLASS COCOA WITH A DISTINCTIVE  
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DAY, the 9th instant to SATURDAY,  
the 20th inst., 1909, (both days inclusive),  
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KNIFE POLISH  
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PREVENT RUST IN CLEANING  
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BLACK LEAF, MESS, LONDON

## THE SECOND VISIT TO ANNAM

OF H.M.S. KING ALFRED.

(Specially written for the "CHINA MAIL.")  
When the King Alfred left Nhatrang Bay on December 18th it was with the promise of speedy return. After the first ten days of the following month we began to look anxiously at the weather; it had not varied—an overcast sky and incessant showers were the daily programme. We went thoroughly as nayed that the dry season should treat us in such a manner but as long as it cleared up before the cruiser's arrival we could forgive all other shortcomings. No indoor amusements were to be had at such an out-of-the-way little spot as Nhatrang so sunshine was necessary for the success of the visit.

On the 12th I was standing on an erection of chairs and tables trying to put up a punks, when in came my husband with an English naval officer. I stumbled down from my awkward position as quickly as possible and apologized for being so "upside down." "Oh that's what I've nearly been," said my visitor, glancing at his trousers and I saw he had been in the water up to his knees. He explained that he had just arrived from Hongkong with Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton's yacht, the Alcega, and had anchored off Cua-be. He understood that the Admiral would trans-ship to her within a few days. Knowing nothing of the country nor whether there were any means of transport between Cua-be and Nhatrang he had come by boat. This row of 7 kilometres against the monsoon was a trying ordeal for white men under a tropical sun; then, when at last they saw ashore opposite the Pasteur Institute, they were nearly upset in the surf.

On Thursday, the 14th, the rain still poured down and the fog over the sea was so thick that water and sky were indistinguishable. Was the King Alfred there? Later in the day we discovered that she had been anchored in full view of the village but nobody had been aware of the fact till some officers came ashore. Fortunately it cleared up in the afternoon so that shooting, riding and tennis could be indulged in.

The next day dawned absolutely fine, much to our delight, for nearly all Nhatrang had been invited to lunch with the Admiral. Soon after 10 a.m. there was quite a procession of vehicles on their way to Cua-be. Though the white population numbers less than forty, Nhatrang can boast of three motor cars. Our small tri-car did not venture out as the road was so bad, but Dr. Yarin in his Peugeot managed to make room for two or three of the guests. We all drove our traps and cradle carts as far as the state of the road would permit and then alighting walked up the slope of the little peninsula which divides the waters of Nhatrang and Cua-be. It was a pretty view all round from the top of the incline. In front lay a stretch of deep blue sea bounded here and there by green, forest-covered islets; the water sparkled in the sunshine, the sky was unclouded. In the midst of the bay stood the imposing gray mass of the King Alfred, and to her right the elegant white silhouette of the Alcega. On the little yellow beach below us groups of natives were gazing at this wonderful apparition and watching the sailors as they made ready their boats to take the guests to the steam-launch. On either side of us were rough undulating hills which stretched into the distance and after the rain showed themselves in varying hues of blue and purple. They contrasted with the flat plain we had left behind us. The road by which we had come followed the curve of the bay and we could easily distinguish the roofs of Nhatrang five kilometres away. The little village we had driven through at the foot of the hill was almost hidden now by the tall cocon and areca palms which grow round about it. Everything looked more beautiful than usual after the preceding wet and dreary days.

At lunch we heard many a compliment paid to our pretty little village and its surroundings, and several officers declared that they would have been glad to prolong their stay not only for the shooting but because they were so attracted by the neighbourhood. They told me that the coast of Annam was marked in their maps "Region infested with tigers," and wanted to know how far the statement was true. Only five years ago M. Monague, of the Resident staff, was dragged from his horse, killed, and eaten on the mandarin road 15 miles from Nhatrang; even now there is hardly a European who shoots regularly who has not seen the dreaded monster, but lately it is very seldom that one has ventured within ten miles of the village. Wild buffaloes, elephants, tigers, peacocks, jungle fowl, and pheasants abound; however and one never goes out without seeing something.

Both during and after luncheon I was fascinated by the trickles which the Admiral had picked up in every part of the world; there were blue porcelain from China, rich embroideries from Tonkin, ornaments in silver, jade, and bronze, but probably more prized by their owner than all these little works of art, were the trophies among which everybody remarked a sword of honour in gold encrusted with diamonds.

We all divided up for the afternoon, some shooting the Admiral riding and some to tennis at the Residence. Nhatrang, the King Alfred was the great match and to every body's surprise Nhatrang won three sets running in spite of the fact that the Admiral was in time to watch the last set.

## Intimations.

**MITSU BISHI GOSHI KWAISHA**  
(MITSU BISHI CO.)  
COAL DEPARTMENT.

SOLE PROPRIETORS OF TAKASIMA, SOOHI, HOJO, NAMAZUTA, SAYO, SHINNEW and KAMITAMADA Collieries.  
SOLE AGENTS FOR KISHIDAKE, MIYAO, and KIGIO-ROMATSU Coals.

Special attention is invited to the fact that the well-known Coal Mine MUTABE, near Karatsu, has lately been taken over by the Company, and is now being worked on a larger scale.

HEAD OFFICE—TOKYO.  
BRANCH OFFICES—  
NARAKI, MOI, KARATSU, WAKAMATSU, KOBE, OSAKA, SHANGHAI, HONGKONG, HANKOW.  
TEL. ADDRESSES for above: "IWASAKI"  
Codes—A1, ABC 6th Ed., Western Union.

AGENTS  
YOKOHAMA: M. ARADA, Esq.  
HONGKONG: Messrs GRAHAM & Co.  
MANGA: Messrs MACDONALD & Co.  
For particulars, apply to  
H. OISHI,  
No. 2, PEDDER STREET,  
HONGKONG.  
Hongkong, January 9, 1909. 816

**DEVONIAN SOCIETY.**  
THE ANNUAL DEVONIAN DINNER  
will be held at the Devonian Hotel on SATURDAY, 13th February, 1909, at 8 o'clock p.m.  
Devonians wishing to attend are requested to send in their names to  
M. S. NORTHCOTE,  
Hon. Secretary,  
Hongkong, February 3, 1909. 104

**NOTICE.**  
THE only Edition of THE RACE BOOK and PROGRAMME authorized by the Stewards of the JUCK Y CLUB are those printed by Messrs NORTHCOTE & Co. T. F. ROUGH,  
Clerk of the Course.  
Hongkong, January 20, 1909. 99

**BENGER'S**  
Food  
is quite distinct from any other. It possesses the remarkable property of rendering milk, with which it is mixed when used, quite easy of digestion by children, invalids and convalescents.  
Benger's Food is sold in Cans by Chemists, etc., everywhere.

**WEST RIVER TRIPS FROM HONGKONG.**  
Round Trip 4 Days.  
Comfortable Steamers—Delightful Climate.  
THE most interesting and picturesque scenery in South China.  
For further information, apply to  
HUTTENFELD & SWIRE  
Agents, West River British S.S. Co.,  
Hongkong, October 25, 1907. 170

**INTERNATIONAL SLEEPING CAR & EXPRESS TRAINS COMPANY.**  
(THE GREAT TRANS-SIBERIAN ROUTE TO EUROPE)  
HAVING been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, we shall be pleased to give any information as to rates of passage, etc., in connection with the  
SHIMAN, TOMES & CO.,  
Agents.  
Hongkong, August 7, 1907. 1286

**THE LONDON DIRECTORY.**  
(PUBLISHED ANNUALLY.)  
ENABLES readers throughout the World to communicate direct with English MANUFACTURERS & DEALERS in each class of goods. Besides being a complete commercial guide to London and its suburbs the Directory contains lists of EXPORT MERCHANTS with the Goods they ship, and the Colonial and Foreign markets they supply.  
STEAMSHIP LINES arranged under the Ports to which they sail, and indicating the approximate sailings.  
PROVINCIAL TRADE MERCHANTS including Manufacturers, Merchants, etc., in the principal provincial towns and industrial centres of the United Kingdom.  
A copy of the current edition will be forwarded, freight paid, on receipt of Postal order for 3s.  
Dealers seeking Agencies can advertise their side notes for "All or larger areas" through the Directory.  
THE LONDON DIRECTORY CO., Ltd., 25, ABchurch Lane, LONDON, E.C.4.

## Intimations.

**HARBOUR MASTERS DEPARTMENT.**

IT is hereby notified that the following has been received from the AUTHORITIES that GUN will be carried out as under—  
On VESDAY, the 9th February:  
From Suez Hill on to Kowloon Hill, at ranges up to 8,000 yards, commencing at 10 a.m., and finishing at 1 p.m.  
On FRIDAY, the 12th February:  
From Lyman Defences in a South-Westerly direction at ranges up to 14,000 yards, commencing at 10.30 a.m., and finishing at 1 p.m.  
From Lyman Defences in a Easterly direction, at ranges up to 14,000 yards, commencing at 10.30 a.m., and finishing at 1 p.m.  
On SATURDAY, the 13th February:  
From Suez Hill, at ranges up to 8,000 yards, commencing at 10.30 a.m., and finishing at 5.30 p.m.  
If the weather is unfavourable on the above dates, Practice will be on the following day.  
All ships, junks and other vessels keep clear of the ranges.  
BASIL TAYLOR, Commandant Harbour Master,  
Hongkong, February 6, 1909.

**WAR DEPARTMENT CONTRACTS.**

TENDERS will be received at the Head Quarter Office, Victoria Barracks, until 12 o'clock noon, on MONDAY, 22nd February, 1909, for the undermentioned Supplies and Services for the period of 18 months commencing from 1st April, 1909:—  
1 Meat.  
2 Hospital Supplies and Medical Com-fur-ture.  
3 General Supplies and Provisions.  
4 Oil, Wick and Barracks Supplies.  
5 Coal, Coke, Wood, &c.  
6 Barrack Services and Scavenging.  
7 Washing.  
8 Forage.  
Forms and other particulars can be obtained on application to this Office, personally or by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. The Tenders must be properly filled up, signed and dated, and no tender will be noticed unless delivered upon the proper form at the Head Quarter Office by noon on the above date.  
The right to reject any or all Tenders is reserved.  
HEAD QUARTER OFFICE, Victoria Barracks, Hongkong.  
Hongkong, February 3, 1909. 107

**THE KOWLOON LAND & BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TWENTY-THIRD ORDINARY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Company's Office, Victoria Buildings, on TUESDAY, the 9th February, 1909, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1908.  
The REGISTER of SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, the 3rd February to THURSDAY, the 9th February, (both days inclusive) during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.  
By Order of the Board of Directors,  
A. SHELTON HOOPER,  
Secretary to the Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.  
Agents for the Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.  
Hongkong, January 27, 1909. 131

**HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.**

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.  
THE ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Office of the Company, Queen's Buildings, New Price, on MONDAY, the 22nd February, 1909, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts to the 31st December, 1908.  
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 8th to the 22nd February, both days inclusive.  
By Order of the Board of Directors,  
THOS. A. ROSE,  
Secretary.  
Hongkong, January 27, 1909. 129

**CHEE WING & Co.**  
27, 29 and 31, LEE YUEN STREET (WEST HONGKONG).

DEALERS IN  
ALL SORTS OF COPPER, BRASS, STEEL, IRON WARE, &c.  
STEEL GRIDDERS AND TEES.  
CORRUGATED IRON, FIG IRON, &c.  
Suits for  
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**SCOTCH WHISKIES**  
IMPERIAL LIQUEUR  
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SPECIAL LIQUEUR CREAM.  
Purest and best blends obtainable. Thoroughly mature and palatable.  
SOLE AGENTS  
**PATELL & CO.,**  
SHAMKIN, CANTON.

DIRECT IMPORTERS  
OF  
English American & German  
Provisions.







Last Few Days of

POWELL'S

CASH

SALE

Monday, Feb. 8th

TO

Saturday, Feb. 13th

Further  
Reductions.HARMSTON'S  
GRAND CIRCUSLAST 7 NIGHTS  
OF THE GREAT SHOW IN HONGKONG.

TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!

THE SENSATION OF THE WORLD

WILLIAM SCHULTZ

LOOKING THE OPEN LOOP.

Must be seen to be believed.

AGAIN TO-NIGHT

OUR PERFORMING TIGERS

THE MARVELOUS FIANTZ TROUPE

AND

ONE ALL STAR COMPANY

to one of the

BEST PROGRAMS EVER PRESENTED

TO THE HONGKONG PUBLIC.

TUESDAY NIGHT, February 9th,

The Second Amateur Riding

Contest

Previous Winner, Limited to six

entries.

NEXT MATINEE!

WEDNESDAY, February 10th.

Doors open at 2.30 P.M.

Performance at 3.30 P.M. sharp.

Children Half-price at Matinees only.

N.B.—A Special Service of Cars will

run between the Post Office and the Circus

before and after the performance.

Working at ROBINSON PIANO Co., Ltd.

COL. R. LOYE, Manager.

Hongkong, January 11, 1909.

BOXING!

AT

CITY HALL,

SATURDAY, 6th February, 1909.

MAIN EVENT:

15 ROUNDS

MACFADDEN, P. SAN WILLIAMS,

M.M., King Alfred. H.M.S. Flora.

No King and Plans now open at ROBIN-

SON PIANO Co. Ltd.

Hongkong, January 28, 1909.

138

CATHEDRAL CHOR CONCERT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12th, at 9.15 P.M.,

in the

CITY HALL.

Tickets, \$3.00 at the ROBINSON PIANO Co.

The entire proceeds will be given to the

Cathedral Organ Fund for which the sum of

\$1000 is needed.

Hongkong, February 3, 1909.

155

VICTORIA CINEMATOPH.

EVERY SATURDAY,

GRAND MATINEE, 4 p.m.

Songs by Miss MONTEZ and

Miss LAURA DIAMOND

TWO PERFORMANCES NIGHTLY

7.15 to 9 P.M. and 9.15 to 11.15 P.M.

Tickets can also be obtained at the

ROBINSON PIANO CO.

Don't Forget the Address:

DES VUEX ROAD

(POTTINGER STREET CORNER).

Hongkong, December 23, 1907.

1745

ALEXANDRA CINEMATOPH

No. 2, ZETLAND STREET—

Corner of HONGKONG 11th—Near Clock

TOWER.

The Coolest and most Central Hall.

TO-NIGHT AND EVERY EVENING.

ENTIRE CHANGE OF PROGRAMME

EVERY MONDAY &amp; THURSDAY.

These Films have never been shown in

Hongkong by any other Cinematograph.

Hours: 7.15 to 11 P.M.

Admission \$1.00, 50 cts. and 20 cts.

Hongkong, January 26, 1909.

119

To Keep in Touch

With Home.

BUY A

VICTOR TALKING  
MACHINE.

A STOCK OF OVER

200 MACHINES

AND

10,000 RECORDS

TO SELECT FROM.

EASY PAYMENTS

CAN BE ARRANGED.

S. MOUTRIE &amp; CO., LD.

YORK BUILDINGS, CHATER ROAD.

Hongkong, April 16, 1907.

A. S. WATSON  
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ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINE &amp; SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

WATSON'S

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VERY OLD LIQUEUR

SCOTCH

WHISKY

A Blend of the Finest Pure  
Malt Whiskies distilled in  
Scotland

GENUINE AGE

AND

FINE MELLOW  
FLAVOUR.

PER DOZEN.....\$16.50.

Robert Porter &amp; Co.'s

BULL DOG

BRAND

STOUT.

in Pints and Splits.

AND

Light Ale.

in Pints and Splits.

A HIGH-CLASS ENGLISH ALE.

FRESH SHIPMENT  
JUST ARRIVED.A. S. WATSON & CO.,  
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ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS AND

KOWLOON DISPENSARY.

THE CITY OF PARIS,

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PHONE No. 536.

Ready made Day and Even-  
ing Gowns, Paris Models  
in Hats and Toques,  
Laces, Trimmings, Under-  
clothing, Boots and Shoes,  
Hosiery and Gloves, etc.,  
etc.

MEMOS FOR MONDAY.

Auction.

10.30 a.m.—Auction of Messrs. Jay's

Whole Stock-in-Trade at No. 14, Dea

Vicar Road.

Amusements.

9 p.m.—Harmston's Grand Circus at

Canvey Bay.

Miscellaneous.

Transfer Books of Hongkong &amp; Whampoa

Dock Co., Ltd., close from this date to

22nd Feb. inclusive.

Goods per Salsola undelivered after this

date at No. 10 will be subject to rent

and landing charges.

General Memoranda.

TUESDAY, February 9.

10 a.m.—Military Gun Practice.

11 a.m.—Auction of Condemned, Obso-

lete and Confiscated Stores, etc., at

Central Police Station.

Noon—Meeting of Kowloon Land and

Building Co., Ltd., at Co.'s Office.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Household Furni-

ture, etc., at Mr. Geo. P. Lammer's

Sales Rooms.

Register of Shares of the Hongkong and

Shanghai Banking Corporation closes

from this date to 20th inst. inclusive.

WEDNESDAY, February 10.

Goods per Brivona not cleared at 4 p.m.

on this date subject to rent.

THURSDAY, February 11.

Goods per Jacob Marx not cleared on

this date subject to rent.

FRIDAY, February 12.

9.15 p.m.—Choir Concert at City Hall.

Goods per Constantia undelivered after

this date subject to rent.

Goods per Siberia undelivered at Noon

on this date subject to rent.

SATURDAY, February 13.

9 p.m.—Devotion Dinner at Hongkong

Hotel.

Goods per Nippon Marx undelivered at

noon on this date subject to rent.

FRIDAY, February 19.

9 p.m.—Performance by Hongkong

Amateur Dramatic Club in City Hall.

NOTICE.

Communications relating to news should be

addressed to THE EDITOR.

Letters relating to business should be address-

ed to THE MANAGER.

Correspondents must forward their names

and addresses with any communications ad-

dressed to the Editor, not for publication but

as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written

on one side of the paper only.

No anonymous signed communications that

have already appeared in other papers will be

inserted.

Orders for extra copies of the CHINA MAIL

should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day after

publication. After that hour the supply is

limited. Cash 10 cts., Credit 20 cts. per

copy.

Alterations and additions to advertisements

on Pages 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7, should be sent to the

Office, No. 5, Wyndham Street, not later than 11

a.m. New advertisements should be sent in

before 9 p.m.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are

not ordered for a fixed period will be continued

until countermanded.

Telegraphic Address: Mail, Hongkong.

Telephone No. 22.

The China Mail

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1909

THE ART OF SINGING IN

ENGLISH.

A REACTION is at last setting in among

the English-speaking peoples against the

wretched fashion of singing which

renders the words of the performer

unintelligible to the hearer. How of-

ten at a concert one hears the remark

concerning a professional singer, "Yes,

she sings beautifully, but one never

understands a word she says." And yet

so universal is this experience among

concert-goers that the public has almost

become convinced that the fault lies

with the English language and not

with the singers themselves. Mr.

ROGERS, a well-known concert singer in

America, writing recently in Scribner's

Magazine, fully bears out the truth of

this indictment. The old saying, he

declares, that "He who says well, sings

well" has a converse—"The singer who

cannot say his words intelligibly and

beautifully doesn't know how to sing."

Mr. ROGERS has been moved to pen

these remarks apropos of the announce-

ment that the long-standing rule in

New York of opera in Italian language

will be broken by some experiments in

English, and he rejoices greatly thereat.

But his joy is tempered by the thought

that too many singers murder the

English language when they attempt to

sing it. Mr. ROGERS addresses himself

with spirit to the charge that English is

"unmelodious, ill-adapted to musical

uses, and unsingable." He says:

"Against this too generally accepted

explanation I wish to protest most

emphatically. We have a poetic

literature of marvelous richness. Only

the Germans can lay claim to a lyric

wealth as great as ours. The language

we inherit is an extraordinarily rich

one. A German authority credits it

with a vocabulary three times as large

as that of its nearest competitor,

German, and ten times as large as that of

French, the poorest, in number of words,

of all the great languages. With such an

enormous fund of words to choose from

it seems as if we not only should be

able to express our thoughts with

unparalleled exactness and subtlety, but

also with unequalled variety of sound.

Further, it is probable that English

surpasses the other three great lan-

guages of song, German, Italian, and

French in number of distinguishable

vowel sounds, but in questions of ear

authorities usually differ, and it is

hazardous to claim in this an indubi-

table supremacy. It seems certain,

however, that English has rather more

than twice as many vowel sounds as

Italian (the poorest language in this

respect), which has only seven or eight.

Again, it is asserted that the sound of

English is unmelodious because of its

many consonants, but we are no richer

in consonants than the Germans, and

German is accepted as a suitable vehicle

for song. Furthermore, a richness and

variety in consonant sounds adds to the

vocal expressiveness of a language, as

the best German singers, have amply

proved. Italian is the easiest language

in which to sing because it contains the

fewest vowels and consonants, and for the

same reason, is, despite certain obvious

beauties, the most limited in its range."

Mr. ROGERS declares that it only needs a

little courage on the part of concert-

goers to discountenance all singers who

refuse to sing intelligibly to bring about

a long-needed reform in the singing of

English. By so doing they will, he

says, raise the culture and tone of a

lovely art to its proper level. To bring

out the verbal beauties of a song, an

aria, or a recitative should be as much an

object of desire on the part of the singer

as the reproduction of the notes of the

composer's music, and that it is possible

to achieve this desirable result the

annuals of the concert platform and the

opera afford many a glorious example.

It is slovenliness in most cases, in-

sufficient or inadequate training in

others, which have been the true reasons

for unintelligible English singing and

the sooner the bad and pernicious habit

ceases to be tolerated the better.

English, and he rejoices greatly thereat.

But his joy is tempered by the thought

that too many singers murder the

English language when they attempt to

sing it. Mr. ROGERS addresses himself

with spirit to the charge that English is







### His Britannic Majesty's Ships on the China Station.

Name.	Class	Tons.	Gun.	H.P.	Captain.	Last reported at
crity	despatch-ramsal-	1700	12	8000	Comdr. O. T. M. Fuller	Hongkong
ford	crUISer, 2nd class	4580	10	9000	Captain E. O. Ryan	Hongkong
nable	crUISer, 1st class	9700	—	—	Capt. E. E. Rinkine	Hongkong
comart	river gunboat	710	2	900	Comd. Hon. R. O. B. Bridgman	Hongkong
atup	river gunboat	710	2	900	Lieut.-Comdr. F. B. Noble	Hongkong
rob	steam	1970	6	1400	Comdr. H. L. P. Heard	Hongkong
	water tank and tug	380	—	300	—	Hongkong
	sleep	1070	6	1700	Comdr. G. T. Borrett	Chinkiang
	torpedo boat destroyer	6 365	8	4000	Lieut.-Comdr. Gresson	Hongkong
	crUISer, 2nd class	4080	10	7000	Capt. R. Nugent	Hongkong
	torpedo boat destroy	275	6	4000	Lieut. Comdr. B. J. D. Guy	Hongkong
	torpedo boat destroy	275	6	4000	Lieut.-Com. Dickson	Chinkiang
	crUISer, 1st class	9000	6	8300	Lieut.-Comdr. Freemantle	Hongkong
	crUISer, 1st class	16,000	14	25,000	Capt. G. La Mareaux	Hongkong
Alfred	crUISer, 1st class	6 615	8	1200	Capt. Olinos Baker	Hongkong
	river gunboat	9800	—	—	Lt. Comdr. S. Penryon	Hongkong
	crUISer, 1st class	180	2	800	Capt. Geo. W. Smith	Yangtze
mouth	river gunboat	85	2	340	Lt.-Comdr. C. O. Walcott	West River
then	river gunboat	350	6	8300	Lieut.-Com. Roy	Yangtze
lengal	river gunboat	85	2	340	—	Hongkong
	torpedo boat destroyer	350	6	8300	—	West River
	river gunboat	85	2	340	Lt.-Com. J. White	West River
pipies	river gunboat	85	2	340	Lt.-Comd. Hiskell	Yangtze
	river gunboat	85	2	340	Lt.-Comd. A. Dixen	Hongkong
	torpedo boat destroyer	350	6	8300	Lt.-Comdr. D. Strub	Hongkong
	receiving ship	4680	6	—	Commodore H. Lyon	Yangtze
	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lt.-Comdr. Godfrey	Hongkong
	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lieut.-Com. M. J. Spear	Yangtze
	torpedo boat destroyer	355	6	8300	Comdr. Stevenson	Hongkong
switch	surveying ship	689	—	450	Comdr. E. P. Douglas	Hongkong
azing	torpedo boat destroyer	380	6	8300	Lieut.-Com. J. Kiddie	Hongkong
doonok	river gunboat	195	2	800	Lieut.-Com. Jas. F. Knox	Upper Yangtze
	river gunboat	160	2	500	Lieut.-Com. Cottrell-Dormer	Upper Yangtze
dark	river gunboat	160	2	500	Lt.-Comdr. G. R. Livingston	Upper Yangtze

Flagship of Vice-Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton, Commander-in-Chief,

## Foreign Men-of-war on the China and Japan Station

[illegible]

† Flagship of Rear Admiral Joseph Hemphill

**COMMERCIAL LAW AFFECT.**

ING CHINESE;  
With Special Reference to

**MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION AND  
BANKRUPTCY LAWS IN**

**HONGKONG.**  
(Printed from the China Mail.)

For Sale at the China Mail Office,

at 5, Wyndham Street.

\_\_\_\_\_

**WASHING BOOKS.**  
(In English and Malay)

ASHERMAN'S BOOKS, for the use

of Ladies and Gentlemen and now

**MARK O'NEILL**, 87 Wyndham Street.

— *Journal of the American Medical Association*

\_\_\_\_\_



## THE LEGATION GUARDS.

## PROPOSALS FOR WITHDRAWAL.

(Wah Tat, Feb. 6, 1909.)

Their Excellencies Na Tung and Leung Tun-yin have convened a meeting of the Diplomatic Corps to discuss the question of the withdrawal of Legation Guards from Peking.

## TURT TOPICS.

From the numbers round the rails this morning—the largest of the season—it is evident the spirit of enthusiasm in the year's racing and the likelihood of reaping the benefit of early rising when the races come off, is most marked. Both courses were in use, but most of the morning's work was done on the outside. Where the gallops were done on the inside I have denoted with the insertion of an "i." Some splendid long distance gallops were done by several of the Derby candidates, but as two stables at least have not lately put their ponies over the measured distances, it is still somewhat of a closed book as to the winner for 1909.

The following were the times taken:—

Kingston, one mile, last three quarters, 25. —, 1.43.  
York Road, one mile and a quarter, last mile, 34, 1.08, 1.42, 2.16.  
Tubbs Road, one mile, 33, 1.06, 1.39, 2.11.

Spring Road, one mile and a half, 37, 1.13, 1.43, 2.25, 3.0, 3.32.  
Glorious Road, one mile and a half, 37, 1.12, 1.47, 2.19, 2.53, 3.27.  
Rubber Tree, one mile, 38, 1.13, 1.43, 2.20.

Earthquake, three quarters, (i), —, 1.03, 1.42.  
Coconut, one mile and a quarter, (i), last three quarters, 35, 1.10, 1.44.  
Seaford, one mile and a quarter, 33, 1.14, 1.54, 2.39, 3.05.

Giesler, one mile and a half, 35, 1.07, 1.41, 2.16, 2.51, 3.25.  
Resignation, one mile, last three quarters, (i), —, 1.03, 1.41.  
Soudan and Maryland one mile and a quarter, 38, 1.07, 1.44, 2.19, 2.54.

Astral, one mile, last three quarters, (i), 33, 1.06, 1.39.  
Plym, one mile and a quarter, last mile, —, 1.21, 1.54, 2.29.  
Kilwood, one mile and a quarter, 35, 1.10, 1.47, 2.22, 2.52.

Heraldic, one mile and a quarter, 34, 1.11, 1.49, 2.28, 2.57.  
Vine, one mile and a quarter, 41, 1.24, 2.09, 2.49, 3.24.

COMPION CRIPPING.  
Compton, one mile, last three quarters, 35, —, 1.43, 2.16.  
Snowflake Rose, one mile, —, 1.07, 1.39, 2.14.

Little Gem Rose, one mile and a half, 34, 1.07, 1.40, 2.15, 2.48, 3.21.  
Horo d'Or Rose, one mile, 36, 1.12, 1.49, 2.29.

Triad, one mile, last three quarters, (i), 35, 1.10, 1.44.  
Strathdallas, one mile and a quarter, 35, 1.08, 1.45, 2.22, 2.54.  
Argyll, one mile, last half, 35, 1.09.

Fugitive II, one mile and a half, 37, 1.13, 1.47, 2.23, 2.59, 3.33.  
Waziri Chief, one mile, 36, 1.09, 1.42, 2.15.  
Achilles, one mile and a quarter, 2.49, last quarter, 31.

Apollo, one mile and a quarter, 2.49, last quarter, 33.  
Fermis, one mile and three quarters, last mile and a half, 41, 1.18, 1.54, 2.31, 3.10, 3.44.

Garth, one mile and half, last mile and a quarter, 37, 1.15, 1.52, 2.28, 3.00.  
SUBSCRIPTION CRIPPING.  
Kilron, one mile, last three quarters, 39, 1.17, 1.49.

Little Dot Rose, one mile and a quarter, last mile, 35, 1.03, 1.44, 2.17.  
Deitchknecht, one mile, 36, 1.10, 1.45, 2.23.  
Barry, one mile and a half, last mile and a quarter, (i), 41, 1.20, 1.58, 2.36, 3.09.

Strathmill, one mile, last three quarters, 40, 1.17, 1.49.  
Mummers, one mile, last three quarters, —, 1.03, 1.42.  
Bagby Dua and Sandstone, three quarters, 32, 1.04, 1.37.

Highland Lassie, one mile and a quarter, last three quarters, 1.47.  
Hippodrome and Hercules, one mile and a half, 37, 1.14, 1.50, 2.26, 3.02, 3.37.  
Torridge, one mile, 38, 1.14, 1.52, 2.22.

Tor and Tamar, one mile, 36, 1.10, 1.46, 2.21.  
Maccrew, one mile and a half, 37, 1.11, 1.47, 2.23, 2.58, 3.34.  
Graystone and Constant, three quarters, —, 1.08, 1.46.

Butcher, one mile and a half, 43, 1.22, 1.58, 2.33, 3.08, 3.43.

CRIME.  
**IMPORTANT HARBOUR REGULATIONS.**

It is notified in the Gazette that foreign ships-of-war shall not make any examination or survey of the shores or waters of the Colony either from such ships or by means of boats or otherwise. Foreign soldiers or sailors if unarmed may be landed in the Colony within the harbour limits, in numbers not exceeding 100 for purposes of recreation, without the prior consent of the Governor, provided that notice shall be given to the Colonial Secretary if it is intended to land any larger number of men, in order that all facilities, of which local conditions admit, may be given. Applications for permission to land armed parties in connection with funerals or to take part in public ceremonies of an exceptional nature should be addressed to the Governor through the Colonial Secretary. No application is necessary in the case of officers.

No foreign soldiers or sailors shall be landed in the Colony outside the harbour limits from any vessel without the permission of the Governor obtained through the Consul or Officer of the country to which such soldiers or sailors belong.

PNEUMONIA.  
OLD people and those who have weak lungs cannot be too careful in guarding against this disease. Pneumonia, a very serious disease, is often the result of a cold or an attack of influenza, and can be prevented by the timely use of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. We have as yet had no attack of pneumonia where Chamberlain's Cough Remedy was taken. For sale by all chemists and druggists.

## COMPANY MEETINGS.

## Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.

The ordinary annual general meeting of shareholders of Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd., was held at the Company's Registered Offices, Alexandra Buildings, Des Voeux Road, Central, to-day at noon.

Mr H. Humphreys presided and there were present:—Dr J. W. Noble, Hon. Mr. H. A. W. Slade, and Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar, directors; Messrs D. K. Moss, J. A. Jupp, W. A. Dowley, H. Summers, C. B. Byers, Ho Fook, J. M. Wong, W. E. Clarke, J. M. E. Machado, H. P. Smith and Captain T. Hall with the secretary, Mr. Enoch. Seth.

The secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen—With your permission I will follow the usual custom and take the report and statement of accounts as read. Reference has been made in the report to the opening of a new account, "Typhoon and Floods Insurance Fund," by the transfer to same of the amount previously appearing under the heading of "Fund for Equalization of Dividend" for which we obtained the sanction of the shareholders in October last and to the withdrawal of \$3,738.96 from this fund. On the other hand during the year \$4,746.12 has been added to the Insurance Reserve Fund which represents the value of expired fire risks underwritten by ourselves. Turning to the second account, we see that the amount invested in property has been increased by a sum of \$79,962.26 being amounts paid on account of the contract for the erection of a six storey building in Robinson Road, Kowloon, now nearly completed. All the flats have already been let, also one of the shops. This block has been built on a portion of one of the three lots purchased in June 1906. I might mention in regard to this purchase that ten per cent of the purchase money was paid in cash and ninety per cent, viz.—\$346,453.20 remained on mortgage free of interest until 31st December, 1908, so that the company will commence paying interest at the rate of six per cent per annum on this sum from the first of this year. It was the original intention of your directors to build on a larger scale than they have done, on the ground thus acquired, but the lack of demand for all kinds of property to which I made reference at a recent annual meeting has again been a conspicuous feature of the year under review and in consequence the proposed building programme was considerably curtailed.

On the liabilities under the heading of "sundry creditors" are larger by \$38,738.05 mainly in consequence of the new buildings at K. Wilson just referred to. Rents show a falling off of \$7,349.97 but this is more than accounted for by the fact that Marine Lot 45, in which we used to get \$1,190 a month and taxes, became vacant in April last and is still vacant. You will observe that no appropriation has been made in the report for remuneration to general manager and directors. Under clause 72 of the Articles of Association the directors get nothing in bad times and the general managers practically nothing. I say practically nothing in the case of the general managers because I estimate they make perhaps \$1,600 to \$1,500 per annum clear of all allowances. If the bad times are going to continue it is possible shareholders may be asked to make some change in the Articles relating to remuneration as they were framed when everything in the Colony and property in particular, was booming.

I have nothing further to add but before moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions shareholders may have to put.

There being no questions the chairman moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr Dowley seconded and the motion was carried.  
On the motion of the chairman seconded by Mr D. K. Moss, the re-election of Dr. J. W. Noble, Messrs J. Scott, Harston, J. S. Van Ban Buren, J. W. C. Bonnar and Ho Tung as directors was confirmed.  
Mr D. K. Moss proposed the re-election of Messrs H. Percy Smith and W. H. Potts as auditors.

Mr W. E. Clarke seconded and the motion was carried.

The Chairman said:—That concludes the business gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance; dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.

Mr R. Shawan presided and there were present:—Mr H. P. White, Dr J. H. Noble, Chow Hing Kee, consulting committee, Messrs J. M. E. Machado, H. P. Smith, F. Ellis, A. A. Cordeiro, D. W. Gaggard, H. D. B. Hancock, H. J. Terrey, W. King Sui, J. McEubbin and the secretary, Mr J. M. Young.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen—Copies of the report and accounts for 1908 now laid before you have been in your hands for some days so they need not be read now. During the year trade in all its branches lay under a heavy cloud, although I am glad to say that cloud has shown some signs of lifting since the year closed, and consequently our business of making loans called for increased vigilance on our part. But I am sorry to say that one or two old clients, owing to the prevailing depression, were unable to meet their engagements, compelling us to enter into possession. At the same time rates of interest were not so high as money was scarce, it was satisfactory security that was lacking. Under these circumstances which however adverse, are nothing more than may be expected in a bad year such as that we have just passed through, we may congratulate ourselves on the figures now before us. Our gross earnings are about the same as last year, and besides paying the usual dividend of eight per cent on an increased capital we are able to place ten thousand dollars to reserve fund. Unfortunately, we have had to deplete that fund by \$50,000, principally to make heavy depreciation on our investments and possible losses on some accounts about which we are a little doubtful. The latter are of no great significance, but this depreciation on shares is a setback. I feel myself that in

writing down such a stock as Cements to \$10, we are valuing them at panic prices, but it is best to be on the safe side and give no opening for criticism. It has been no year for selling stocks nor do I think we should be doing justice to ourselves or to the stocks themselves by trying to realize on such a market. There is nothing for it but to wait for better prices and for that better time which I feel sure is not far off when capitalists will look back with astonishment to the quotations now current and with regret that they did not take fuller advantage of such cheap and favourable opportunities for investment. Our godown business has answered all our anticipations and has worked very satisfactorily, particularly so for a first year's experience. There is nothing in the accounts that calls for special comment, some of the items are a little larger, such for instance as interest paid and sundry debtors, but this is only the natural result of a larger business and an increased number of accounts. As to the other items, some of a very sound one, our loans are spread over a wide area, all known losses are provided for, and our investments true value to figures well below their true value. As to the future I see many reasons to be optimistic, and I hope you will be so to those who talk of the Colony being played out and having seen its best days etc., etc. The simple fact is that business here as almost everywhere else in the world has suffered the reaction consequent on a period of inflation and over-trading, and as usual the weaker have gone to the wall. But that is all, the resources and facilities of the port as a depot for the trade of Southern China are still untouched and the voice of the pessimist is heard no more in the land than those who have had faith in Hongkong and its fortunes will reap their reward. Before I move the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

There being no questions the Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr J. M. E. Machado proposed the re-election of Messrs J. S. Van Buren, Chow Hing Kee, Dr J. W. Noble, H. P. White and U. Poi On as consulting committees.

Mr D. W. Gaggard seconded and the motion was unanimously carried.

Mr J. M. E. Machado proposed the re-election of Messrs J. S. Van Buren, Chow Hing Kee, Dr J. W. Noble, H. P. White and U. Poi On as consulting committees.

Mr D. W. Gaggard seconded and the motion was carried.

The Chairman said:—That is all the business gentlemen. I am very much obliged for your attendance. Dividend warrants are now ready.

Mr J. W. Noble proposed the re-election of Messrs A. O'D. Gordin and W. H. Potts as auditors.

Mr Chow Hing Kee seconded and the motion was carried.

The Chairman said:—That is all the business gentlemen. I am very much obliged for your attendance. Dividend warrants are now ready.

## RAMBLING NOTES.

Hongkong athletes have not covered themselves with many laurels at Manila. Of course we could not send the pick of the Colony over to the Carnival, still to be beaten at tennis, at polo, and sprinting was rather crowding it on. But what we have lost one way we have made up in another, I feel sure, and the ties of friendship which the Carnival week established will bind Hongkong and Manila all the closer together. Which is as it should be.

With a gentle reminder from the Boy, and a desire on my part to fulfil a long standing obligation, I ventured down to the race course the other morning in the hope of spotting some of the would-be winners at the forthcoming race meeting. However, when I got there I was hopelessly at sea as to which was which, for there were over so many greys, browns, etc., and it was only an old and enthusiastic time-keeper's knowledge of what was what that saved me from utter failure. I saw at least one newspaper represented the morning I was there, but the gentlemen seemed very busy and the advice I got was to leave him alone. There are certainly several good ponies this year, and from all accounts the racing will be above the average. Buxley is well looked after, and so is John Peel's stable, though the Shanghai and other local stables will be well worth keeping an eye on.

I hear Mr E. J. Chapman, the energetic and enthusiastic organist of Union Church, who has brought his choir to such a high state of efficiency, is leaving shortly for Home on holiday, and that Mr G. P. Lamont has accepted the post of organist and leader of the choir during his absence. Mr Lamont, as everybody knows, is a fine singer and understands as much about music as almost any one else in the Colony. He is also a very capable organist, having taken the service at St. John's Cathedral on several occasions during the temporary absence of the Cathedral organist of the time.

The case heard at the Magistracy the other day, in which a well-known local resident was summoned for obstructing the progress of one of the electric cars, served as an object lesson to most of us that it is high time that our local currency was put upon a better footing. Whilst recognizing the difficulties which the local tramway company have to put up with owing to the flood of Chinese subsidiary coinage, it is, nevertheless, rather hard on the passenger who tenders Hongkong paper money to receive his change in the discredited coinage of Kwangtung.

I see the next Naval relief are coming out on the Andromeda. Most of His Majesty's ships at present on the China station rejoice in names which officers and bluejackets alike can pronounce with a reasonable degree of accuracy. It was not always so, as those who remember Captain Chichester and his famous ship the Immortalite—the Himantide—light as she was invariably dubbed on the lower deck—can recall. Many years ago the port guard-ship at Harvey was that very graceful vessel, the Penelope, but all up and down the estuary of the Orwell and the Stour she was known as the Pennylope. I came across a yarn in this connection the other day that is worth relating. It concerned the good ship Andromeda, and one morning a blue-jacket asked the Naval Instructor, "Excuse me, sir, but how do you pronounce the name of this ship?"

Andrew Mash or Andrew Mackie; one and my pals have a little bet on about it." The required information was imparted and the blue-jacket departed murmuring that all the bets were off.

Of course Billy Ruffian is a classic nickname in the Royal Navy and will live for ever I suppose, but all the same I think that with the exception of keeping alive the memory of certain famous ships who helped to make the British Empire, from the battle of Shyda down to the bombardment of Alexandria, we might drop all the foreign names with advantage. We can well afford to let the Blue Funnel line appropriate all the Greek names of the Olympian pantheon as a demonstration that English sailors do know something of ancient history, and use in the Royal Navy names which the English tongue can manipulate without the help of too many facetious connotations.

It is reported from London that on January 1st a number of aged, decrepit jokers employed as recurring intervals by the superior journals of the Metropolis presented themselves at a certain post office in Fleet Street for Old Age Pensions. They were, however, kidnapped by hired bandits of the provincial organs, to be pressed into prolonged and unavailing service in the country. Some, however, must have escaped abroad some years ago otherwise how shall we account for the respectable existence up and down the China coast?

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## ROBINSON PIANO Co., Ltd.



## BABY GRANDS.

BY MAKERS OF THE HIGHEST REPUTE.  
BECHSTEIN, HAAKE, STEINWAY.

## ABSOLUTELY UNEQUALLED.

CREDIT TERMS  
or  
10% for CASH.

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# POWELL'S

Ladies' Departments and  
Furnishing Department,  
Alexandra Buildings.

Gentlemen's Department,  
28, Queen's Road,  
(Opposite the Clock Tower.)

Last few days of

## **CASH CLEARANCE SALE**

**MONDAY, Feb. 8th to SATURDAY, Feb. 13th.**

## **FURTHER REDUCTIONS**

Remaining Remnants of Dress Goods, Ribbons, Laces,  
Cretonnes, Curtain Muslins and Sateens  
will be sold at a Quarter of the **USUAL PRICE.**

**A FEW BLOUSES, FURS, COSTUMES, COATS, SKIRTS, HATS**  
to be Cleared at HALF PRICE.

**100 Pairs of LADIES' SHOES** still to be cleared \$2.50 to \$7.50 pair

### **GENTLEMEN'S UNDERWEAR**

Natural Wool, **UNSHRINKABLE**

**Vests** - - \$1.50 each.

**Pants** - - \$1.50 pair.

## **POWELL'S.**